

April 17, 1975

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kime asked to be excused for the balance of the day.

Mr. President, Senator Barnett asks unanimous consent to print amendments to LB 430 in the Legislative Journal.

Mr. President, LB 368, read title. Mr. President, there are rather lengthy committee amendments from Senator Lewis' Education Committee.

PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to enquire. Ordinarily we have the bill introducers talk first, if the committee amendments substantially change the bill, perhaps, the committee should . . . What's your desire Senator Duis?

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, thank you very much for the opportunity to address you in respect to this. The committee amendments are more of an explanation and put into figures the theoretical part. I believe you're absolutely correct that we should have the committee amendments previous to anything else. They will almost constitute an explanation of the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: If there's no objection, Senator Lewis will speak to the committee amendments, even though the introducers are Senators Koch and Duis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I present the committee amendments with the full concurrence of the introducers of the bill. I believe I can say that. To make a long story short, Mr. President, the committee amendments do basically two things. Anytime there is an adjustment of funds, there has to be an adjustment of both the foundation section of the bill. Those dollar figures are noted for you there. There also has to be an adjustment of the ensured needs, which is the method used for calculation of the equalization funds. So what we have done to take care of the extra money that's going into foundation is we have raised the foundation levels in each of those grade levels that have been designated under 0448. Then we have raised the equalization dollars back from that '68 figure of cost per pupil in the method that's used to analyze and compute equalization funds. The purpose of these two areas was simply to make it conform with the additional money, under the terms which the introducers wanted. The second thing we did is we changed the limit that was inserted in the original bill. Again I don't want to speak for Senator Koch or Senator Duis. I know Senator Koch concurred in committee. I know Senator Duis is in agreement with the spending limitation that we have. We simply took the spending limitation out of 984, which is currently in effect. It's tied to the CPI. We inserted that as the limitation funding, rather than on a decreasing percentage of increase as your per pupil increase which was the original provision for expenditure under the Duis-Koch bill. Mr. Chairman, those are the two basic thrusts of the committee amendment. I move the adoption of the same.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas.